

# Bexhill Sailing Club – Policy for Use of Changing Rooms and Toilets.

## Introduction

This policy has been produced in response to the club's desire to ensure the safe use of changing rooms and toilet areas by adults, children and young adults and is based on the latest guidance from the RYA.

## Normal Use of Changing Rooms and Toilets

- Members should try to ensure that they are not the only adult present while there are children or young people (not in their care) in the changing room. This is to both protect our younger members and to avoid any possibility of accusations of improper conduct. If there are children or young people changing, be aware and do not leave a sole adult with children or young people not in their care.
- Children under 8 must be accompanied by a parent whilst using changing rooms.
- Children over the age of 8 should use the changing facilities that are designated for their own gender or sex.
- The disabled facilities are available for anyone requiring privacy while changing.
- Mobile phones with photographic capability or cameras must not be used while others are changing. Parents are encouraged to hold their children's mobile phones for safekeeping while they are changing or going afloat.
- If anyone is suspected of taking images of children or adults in a state of undress, the Welfare Officer, Officer of the Day (OOD) or Race Officer should be informed immediately. In these circumstances the police will need to be informed.

- Everyone should be aware that if they have any safeguarding concerns about the behaviour of any other person, they should report these to the Welfare Officer (see below for contact details).
- Parents should avoid sending unaccompanied children into the changing rooms to change for beach activities unrelated to sailing events while members are changing/showering for going afloat or after coming ashore.
- If it is essential, in an emergency, for a male to enter a female changing area or vice versa, it is advised that they are accompanied by another adult of the opposite sex.

## Additional Requirements for Cadet Evenings and Cadet Functions (in addition to all of the above)

- Adult volunteers of the same sex as the cadets will be available, whenever possible, in a supervisory role when children and young people are changing.
- In the open communal male shower area, cadets are required to wear their swimming trunks whilst showering.
- Adult instructors or helpers showering in the communal facilities at the same time as cadets should also wear swimming trunks.
- Everyone should be aware that if they have any safeguarding concerns about the behaviour of any person at cadet events, they should report these to Jo Adams, (the Deputy Safeguarding Lead) who would normally be present, or Malcolm Brookes (Cadet Captain).

Welfare Officer – Contact details: Mary Westhead 07775801957

Policy Adopted 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024